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X-MEN 2099
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IT'S ALWAYS DARKEST...
...BEFORE THE DAWN.
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FIVE YEARS AGO, THE DEAD AND DYING LINED THE CITY STREETS OF NEW HOPE, TEXAS.
AFTER ONE VERY LONG, VERY BLOODY AFTERNOON, THIS SMALL TOWN BURNED TO THE GROUND.
WELCOME TO NEW HOPE TEXAS
THERE WERE FEW SURVIVORS.
UNNNGGHH...
ALL THE GOOD, RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN ARE DEAD--
--ALL BECAUSE OF YOU--
ONE OF THEM'S STILL ALIVE.
IT'S BEAUMONT-- ONE OF THE ELDERS THAT PASSED SENTENCE ON US--
AND NONE OF THEM WERE LOCALS.
WANT ME TO KILL HIM, FEARLESS LEADER?
DON'T BOTHER, JUNKPILE. HE CAN'T STOP US FROM LEAVING...
NO ONE IN THIS LUNATIC TOWN CAN, AND GOD KNOWS THEY TRIED.
GOT THAT RIGHT, OL' SON.
THEY NEVER SHOULD'VE CROSSED
LAWLESS.
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, PADDIO.

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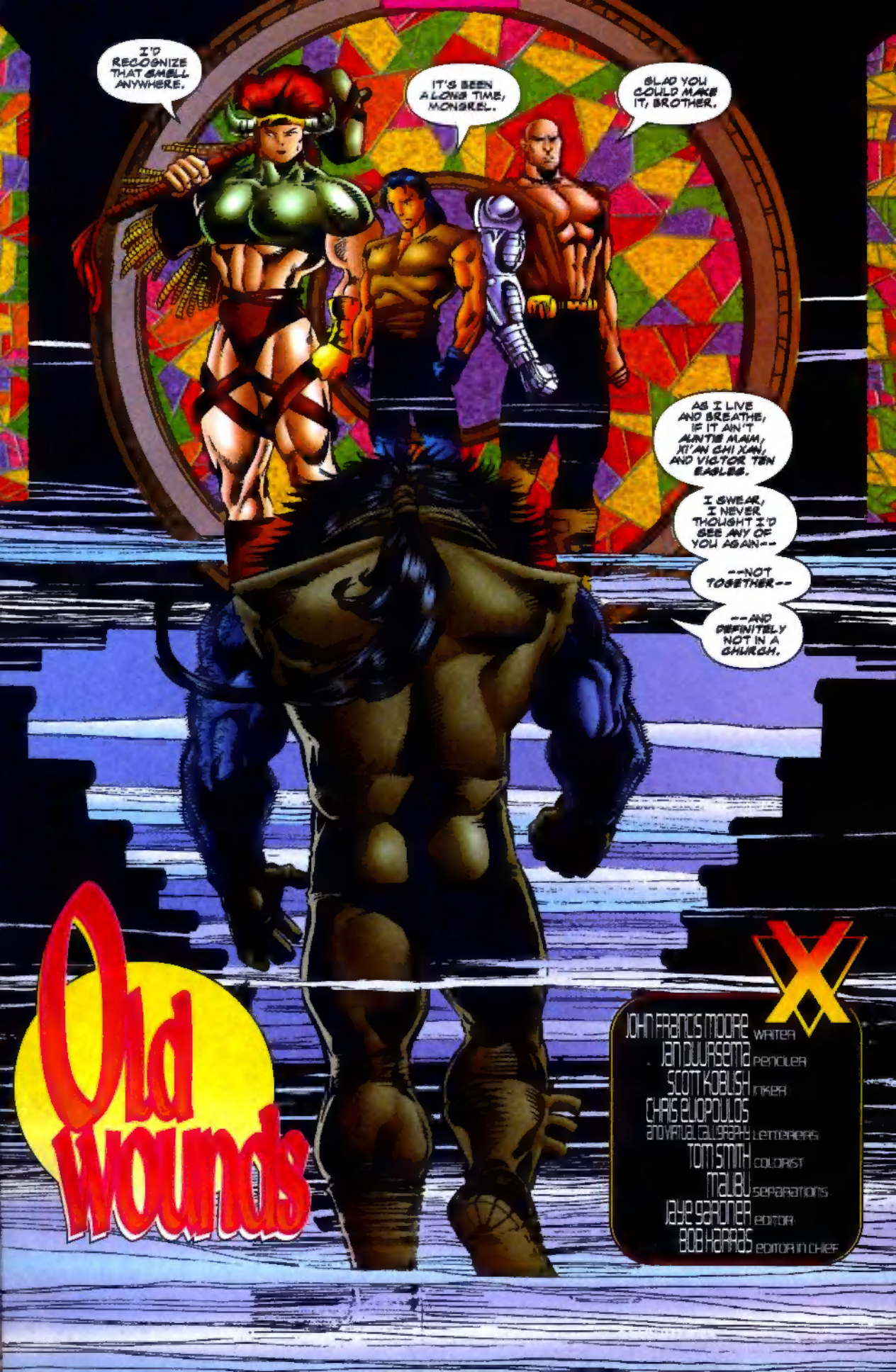
I KNOW YOUR KIND, XI'AN CHI XAN—
YOU AND YOUR WOLFPACK THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE YOUR JUDGMENT.
BUT YOU'RE WRONG. WHETHER BY MY HAND OR ANOTHER'S, YOU'LL ALL DIE AS FOOLS.
I'LL DANCE WHILE YOU ROT, ELDER.
WE DIDN'T ASK FOR ANY OF THIS GRIEF. YOU STARTED IT. WE FINISHED IT.
YOU DUG YOUR OWN GRAVE!
I THINK YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT, XI'AN. HE CAN'T FIGHT BACK.
AMEN TO THAT.
HAIKU'S RIGHT. NO SENSE KICKIN' A DEAD HORSE, COWBOY.
FWUMP
YEAH, MAIM, WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME IN THIS PLACE.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
THAT WAS THE PAST.

THIS IS THE PRESENT.
IN HALO CITY, A BAR CALLED THE NEGATIVE ZONE CATERS TO A MIXED CLIENTELE--
--INCLUDING MANY OF THE CITY'S BURGEONING MUTANT POPULACE.
I TOLD YOU, TWILIGHT, I CAN'T BETRAY A TRUST.
AFTER ALL WE DID TO RESCUE HER FROM AVIAN'S CLUTCHES, WILLOW BETRAYED US, DECEMBER!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT SHOULD BE HER BUSIN--
HEY, SAGES--
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I'M REMO, MUTANT BUBBLE MASTER SUPREME--
--AND I THINK I AM TRULY, DEEPLY, MADLY IN LOVE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DECE, SHOULD I SHOW THIS POD MY OWN SPECIAL BUBBLE TRICK?
NO, LET ME HANDLE MR. BUBBLE. I KNOW HOW TO HIT HIM WHERE HE LIVES.
WITH A CONCENTRATED THOUGHT, DECEMBER FUNNELS A SUBZERO GUST OF WIND TOWARDS THE OBNOXIOUS MUTANT.
HEY! YOU SHATTERED MY STEIN!
SKOOF!
THIS USED TO BE A QUIET PLACE.
GEEZ... DIDN'T HAVE TO ICE MY BREW.

THE NEGATIVE ZONE
SUNCHA STUCK UP ALPHAS, THINK THEY'RE BETTER THAN EVERYBODY ELSE.
SURE, I MAY NOT HAVE THE MOST POWERFUL OR FUNCTIONAL MUTANT POWER--
--BUT I AM THE BUBBLE MACHINE OF LOVE--
UNNFF
YOU ARE A FOOL--
POP
URRKKK...
--AND I WILL NOT SUFFER A FOOL TO LIVE.

ABOVE THE DATA DISTRICT.
HEY, OLD MAN, WHERE'D YOU GET THAT BUTT-UGLY RUSTBUCKET?
YOU GOT SOME NERVE SLICING WILDBOY AIRSPACE WITH THAT EYESORE.
RIGHT, TRASH?
WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF HISTORY, BOYS? THIS HERE'S A VINTAGE BOEING AEROGLIDE.
SEATTLE ONLY MADE FIVE HUNDRED OF THESE BEFORE THE '61 FLOOD.
IT TOOK ME YEARS TO REBUILD IT PROPERLY.
AND IF I THOUGHT YOU TWO PUNKS COULD EVEN SCRATCH THE PAINT--
--I'D HAVE TO KILL YOU BOTH.
YOU SAID IT, SHIV. IT'S INSULTING.
WE OUGHTA GROUND THAT FLYIN' SCRAPHEAP PERMANENTLY.
YEEE!
BAMMOOM
LUCKY FOR Y'ALL I HAVE PRESSING BUSINESS ELSEWHERE.
THAT ANTIQUE WAS TURBO-CHARGED.
'MEMBER, KIDS, IF YOU WANT TO FLY, DON'T PLAY CHICKEN WITH THE EAGLES.
LATER...
OKAY. THIS LOOKS LIKE THE PLACE.
SURE HOPE I'M PRESENT-ABLE.


I'D RECOGNIZE THAT SMELL ANYWHERE.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, MONGREL.
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT, BROTHER.
AS I LIVE AND BREATHE, IF IT AIN'T AUNTIE MAIM, XI'AN CHI XAN, AND VICTOR TEN EAGLES.
I SWEAR, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE ANY OF YOU AGAIN--
--NOT TOGETHER--
--AND DEFINITELY NOT IN A CHURCH.
Old Wounds
JOHN FRANCIS MOORE WRITER
JAN DUURSEMA PENCILER
SCOTT KOBLISH INKER
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS AND VIRTUAL CALLIGRAPHY LETTERERS
TOM SMITH COLORIST
MALIBU SEPARATIONS
JAYE GARDNER EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF

DON'T LET THE STAINED GLASS FOOL YOU! THIS IS ONE OF THE CITY'S POLYCLINICS.
I'VE BEEN USING MY HEALING GIFT HERE TO ATONE FOR THE MANY MISDEEDS OF MY PAST.
WHOO-EE, I'D HEARD YOU GOT RELIGION, XI'AN.
Y'KNOW, IT BREAKS MY HEART TO SEE AN OL' RABBLE ROUSER LIKE YOU GONE GOOD.
YOU'RE STILL THE SAME OVERBEARING, FLEA-BITTEN REDNECK YOU ALWAYS WERE, MONGREL.
AW SHUCKS, MAIME, IF IT AIN'T BROKE WHY FIX IT?
BUT IT CERTAINLY IS REASSURIN' TO KNOW YOU STILL CARE, YOU MACE-WIELDIN' MAMA.
VICTOR, YOU'RE LUCKY THE TORNADO TRIPLETS CANCELLED OUR DATE--
--OTHERWISE I WOULDA BEEN BLISSFULLY INCOMMUNICADO, AND NEVER PICKED UP YOUR CALL.
SO WHAT'S GOIN' ON, BROTHER?
A FOOLKILLER'S HUNTING THE LAWLESS.
HE COST ME MY ARM.
A FOOL-KILLER? YOU'RE PULLING MY LEG.
WE NAPALMED ALL THEM SUPERSOLDIER HOLYROLLERS INTO THE HERE-AFTER FIVE YEARS AGO.
WE THOUGHT WE DID, TOO.
I'M LUCKY AN ARM IS ALL I LOST.
MAN, I STILL HAVE NIGHTMARES ABOUT THE THINGS THOSE TEXAS PSYCHOS DID TO US.
ALL RIGHT THEN, NOW THAT YOU RUINED MY DAY, BETTER GIVE ME THE DETAILS.

"I WAS IN MY SANTA FE STUDIO, WORKING ON A DEEP SEA HOLO-SIM FOR A WEALTHY CLIENT WHEN HAIKU CALLED.
"LAST TIME WE TALKED SHE REPRESENTED HERSELF AS THUNDERSTORM.
"THIS CALL, HER CHOICE OF CYBERSPACE ARCHETYPE WAS SURPRISINGLY CONVENTIONAL.
"I STARTED TO TELL HER HOW MUCH I MISSED THE FLESH AND BLOOD HAIKU WHEN SHE INTERRUPTED ME.
"IN AN UNMODULATED TONE, SHE TOLD ME OUR OLD FRIEND, THE REVEREND, WAS DEAD.
"HIS BODY WAS FOUND IN RENO WITH THE WORD 'FOOL' LASER-BURNED INTO HIS CHEST.
"BEFORE THE FULL IMPACT OF HER WORDS COULD SINK IN--
"--HARRY DEAN BEGAN BARKING PROTECTIVELY.
"AS I TURNED AROUND, I CAUGHT A LASER FLASH IN THE CORNER OF MY EYE--
"--AND SUDDENLY FELT AN ELECTRIC PAIN EXPLODING FROM MY SHOULDER.
"IN THAT INSTANT, I KNEW HAIKU'S WARNING HAD COME TOO LATE--
"--A FOOLKILLER HAD FOUND ME.

"MY PERCEPTION OF TIME SLOWED. I FELT FOR MY ARM, BUT IT WASN'T THERE.
"INSTEAD, I TOUCHED CHARRED FLESH. THE LASER'D CAUTERIZED THE VERY WOUND IT'D CREATED.
"THE FOOLKILLER KEPT TALKING ABOUT A 'LONG OVERDUE JUDGMENT' BUT I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION.
"I WAS STAYING FOCUSED ON THE PAIN-- TRYING NOT TO GO INTO SHOCK.
"MY ONLY CHANCE WAS SHUTTING DOWN THE STUDIO'S POWER--
"--AND PLUNGING THE WORKSHOP INTO DARKNESS.
"I DIDN'T KNOW HOW MUCH TIME IT WOULD TAKE THE FOOLKILLER TO ADJUST TO THE DARKNESS--
"--BUT I COULD NAVIGATE MY RANCH BLIND.
"I SLIPPED OUTSIDE TO STORAGE TANKS IN WHICH THE PREVIOUS OWNER HAD STORED FUEL.
"I THANKED MY ANCESTORS I'D NEVER GOTTEN AROUND TO PUMPING THOSE TANKS.
"ONE STRATEGICALLY THROWN MATCH LATER, AND THE RESULTING EXPLOSION TOOK OUT THE RANCH HOUSE.
"I HOPED THE FOOLKILLER COULDN'T SURVIVE THE BLAST, BUT ON THE CHANCE THAT HE MIGHT--
"--I KNEW BETTER THAN TO WAIT AROUND AND FIND OUT.
"I STAGGERED INTO MY DESERT-ROVER AND SET THE AUTOPILOT FOR A HOSPITAL IN FLAGSTAFF.
"THEN I BLACKED OUT FROM THE PAIN."

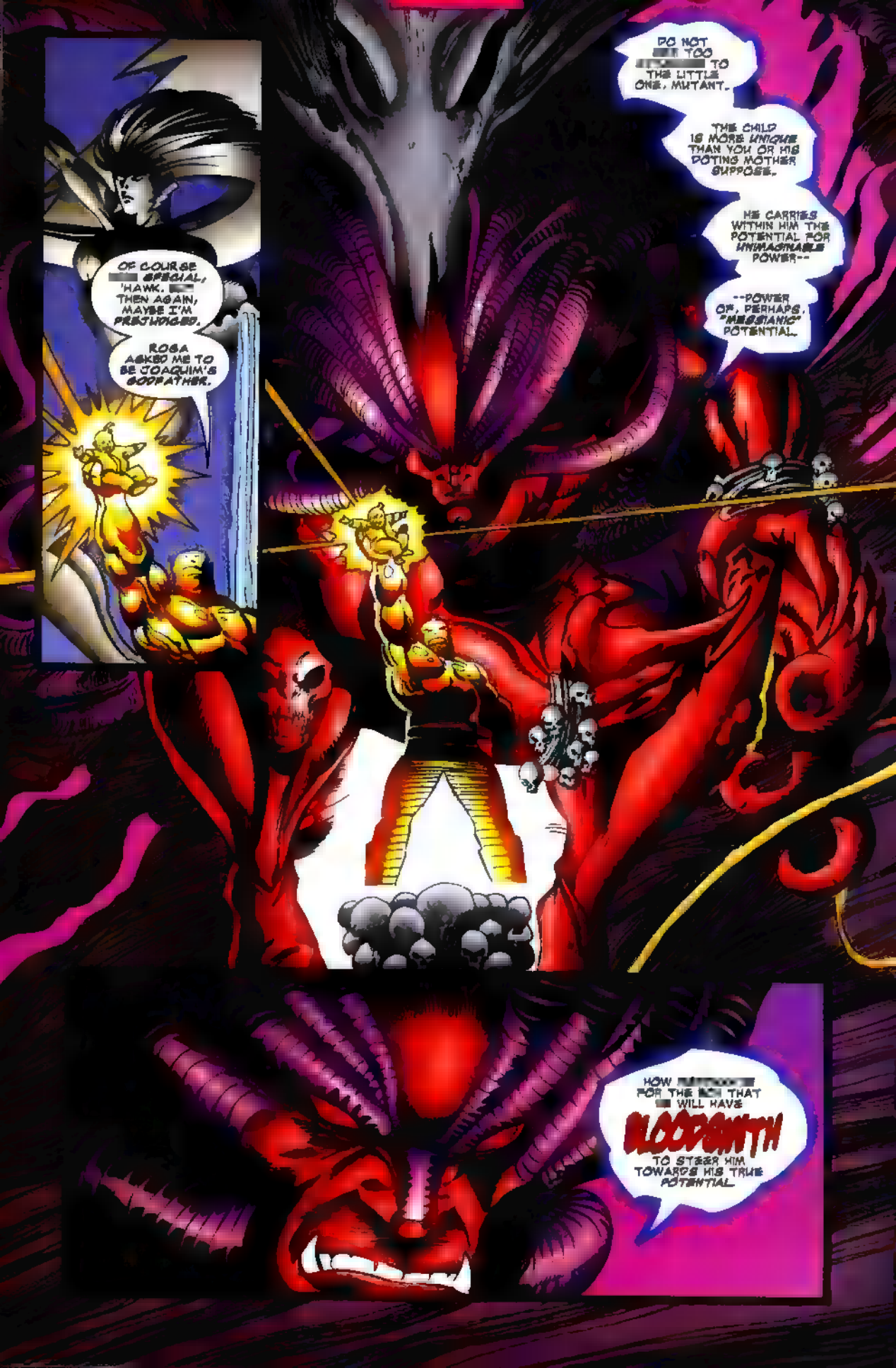
AFTER [redacted] DOCTOR CLEANED MY WOUND, I [redacted] TO HALO CITY.
EVEN IF THIS FOOL-KILLER'S STILL ALIVE AND KICKIN', WHO'S TO SAY HE'S GONNA FIND US [redacted]
THE BODY OF A NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD MUTANT WAS FOUND IN THE ARCADE LAST NIGHT.
THE WORD 'FOOL' WAS WRITTEN IN BLOOD ABOVE WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE BODY.
[redacted] YOU [redacted] BACKUP, WHY [redacted] CALL YOUR MUTANT PALS, AREN'T THEY [redacted] CHARGE OF THIS SHIT?
THIS DOESN'T CONCERN THE X-MEN, THIS IS ABOUT THE LAWLESS.
OKAY, SINCE THE [redacted]'S DEAD, [redacted] MISSING [redacted] AND HAIKU.
JUNKPILE DISAPPEARED DURING S.H.I.E.L.D.'S RAID ON THE THEATRE OF PAIN.
AS FOR HAIKU—
CUP of JONAH
"--OUR [redacted] WIRSHEAD [redacted] INTO [redacted] THE LAWLESS [redacted] UP--
"--BUT [redacted] THE [redacted] TO [redacted] DATADROP, THE [redacted]
"FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, HAIKU'S OFF-LINE.
"FOR ALL WE KNOW, THE FOOLKILLER ALREADY GOT TO HER."
FOOL

HE INDUSTRIAL ZONE...
WELCOME TO UNICELCO, MISTER...?
GIDEON. JUST GIDEON.
I'M DOCTOR PHILO SUNGEN. ALWAYS GLAD TO SHOW A POTENTIAL INVESTOR MY SHOP.
AT UNICELCO, WE'RE ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT.
FOR EXAMPLE, IN THIS SIMULATED OCEAN SPILL, UNICELCO DESIGNED AMOEBOTS--NANOTECH CATALYSTS--
AND THIS PETROCHEMICAL INTO HARMLESS
MAN'S ONLY THE FUTURE LIES HIS AND WAYS.
I SUPPOSE THAT'S A TRADITIONALLY JUDEO-CHRISTIAN WAY TO LOOK AT IT.
ALTHOUGH, PERSONALLY, I'M NOT MUCH OF A RELIGIOUS MAN.
DO YOU KNOW THE AMOUNT OF POLLUTANTS AND TOXINS CHOKING THE ENVIRONMENT PRESENTLY?
IT'S STAGGERING.
MAN'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON OUR WORK HERE.
WHAT A FOOLISH THING TO SAY, DOCTOR.

HE DATA DISTRICT...
HENRI, BLUE YOUR RED AND BLUE BOD OVER TO THE GODDESS ON THE DOUBLE.
NOTHING QUITE [redacted] GRISLY, BUT HURRY.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FOUND ANOTHER MURDER VICTIM, KRYS?
YOU'RE BEING INTENTIONALLY VAGUE, GIRL. THIS BETTER BE WORTH MY TI--
MUNROE PARK
OR NOT!!
THE ZOOMERS ARE BACK!
THEY WERE PART OF THE UNREALITY EFFECT HALLOWEEN JACK ENGINEERED IN VEGAS.
HOW CAN THEY BE HERE IN HALO CITY?
THEY SHOULD ONLY EXIST WITHIN THE ANOMALOUS ZONE.
THE FASTER I GO, THE MORE OF THEM APPEAR.
COOL IT, GUYS, THIS ISN'T FUN--YOU'RE MAKING ME DIZZY--
--AND THE LAST THING I NEED IS TO RUN INTO A WALL AT THIS SPEED.
I'M NOT KIDDING--
GET AWAY FROM ME!!

WHEN I STOPPED, THE ZOOMERS DISAPPEARED.
THEY MUST [redacted]
--ONE THAT I CAN ONLY PERCEIVE IN A STATE OF HYPER-ACCELERATION.
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
DON'T TELL [redacted] YOU'RE [redacted] DOWN IN [redacted] OLD AGE.
NO...IT'S JUST THAT... NEVER MIND. WHAT'D YOU CALL ME OUT HERE FOR?
AN OLD FRIEND SHOWED UP UNEXPECTEDLY. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SAY HELLO.
[redacted] OLD
AFTER YEARS OF FIGHTING THE CORPORATE POWERS THAT BE--
--HOW DOES IT [redacted] TO [redacted] AUTHORITY FIGURE?
EDDIE?

EDDIE!!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, YOU BIG LUG? I THOUGHT YOU SETTLED DOWN IN OKLAHOMA.
AFTER A PERIOD OF SELF-PITY, I FINALLY LEARNED TO ACCEPT MY NEW BODY.
SO WHEN I HEARD ABOUT HALO CITY, I DECIDED TO HEAD WEST. I MISSED YOU GUYS.
ON THE WAY IN, WE PICKED UP ANOTHER FAMILIAR FACE.
BLOODHAWK? THIS IS A SURPRISE. I KNOW HOW FOND YOU ARE OF CITIES.
I'D NO [redacted] RETHINKING HERE--
--BUT THE CHILD SEEMED TO NEED MORE PROTECTION THAN HE HAD.
THE CHILD?
HE MEANS JOACHIM, ROSA'S BOY.
YOU REMEMBER ROSA, THE GANG MEMBER OF THE FREAKSHOW.
HE'S NOT... YOURS?
I WISH-- BUT I HAVEN'T KNOWN ROSA THAT LONG.
HE'S RADIANT...I MEAN, LITERALLY.
[redacted] FRIEND SHAKTI WAS RIGHT WHEN SHE PREDICTED MY [redacted] WOULD BE A MUTANT.
HE SEEMS TO HAVE INHERITED HIS FATHER'S PHOTOVOLTAIC EXTERIOR.
IT'S UNUSUAL THAT THE CHILD WOULD MANIFEST HIS MUTANT CHARACTERISTIC SO EARLY.
HEY, I DIDN'T GLOW UP UNTIL I HIT PUBERTY.
CAN'T YOU FEEL IT, HUANG. THE CHILD IS SPECIAL.


OF COURSE [redacted] SPECIAL, 'HAWK. [redacted] THEN AGAIN, MAYBE I'M PREJUDICED.
ROSA ASKED ME TO BE JOAQUIM'S GODFATHER.
DO NOT [redacted] TOO [redacted] TO THE LITTLE ONE, MUTANT.
THE CHILD IS MORE UNIQUE THAN YOU OR HIS DOTING MOTHER SUPPOSE.
HE CARRIES WITHIN HIM THE POTENTIAL FOR UNIMAGINABLE POWER--
--POWER OR, PERHAPS, "MESSIANIC" POTENTIAL.
HOW [redacted] FOR THE [redacted] THAT [redacted] WILL HAVE BLOODSMYTH TO STEER HIM TOWARDS HIS TRUE POTENTIAL.

LOOK AT US. WE'RE HIDIN' OUT LIKE SCARED LITTLE KIDS.
WE TOOK EVERYTHING THAT WACKO TOWN HAD TO GIVE US AND SURVIVED---
--INCLUDING THAT HANDFUL OF PSYCHOPATHS THEY CALLED FOOLKILLERS.
WE ANSWERED ATROCITY WITH ATROCITY, AND THE CYCLE CONTINUES.
IT SEEMS I CANNOT ESCAPE THE VIOLENCE OF MY PAST.

WHEN DID YOU TURN INTO SOME WHINY PACIFIST?
IN THE OLD DAYS, YOU WERE VICIOUS---SOMEONE I COULD RESPECT.
I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T LOST YOUR NERVE, OL' SON.

MONGREL'S RIGHT. IF WE CAN'T TRUST EACH OTHER IN BATTLE, MAYBE WE'RE BETTER OFF ON OUR OWN.
NO, WE OWE IT TO THE REVEREND --MAYBE HAKU-- TO NAIL THIS FOOLKILLER.
AND MY GUESS IS THAT WE'RE ONLY DEALING WITH ONE MAN.
THEN, WE SHOULDN'T BE ON THE DEFENSIVE. LET'S FIND THE SQUINK.

IF THERE'S ONLY ONE FOOLKILLER, HE'S SMART ENOUGH NOT TO TAKE ON ALL OF US AT ONCE.
WE'LL NEED TO DRAW HIM OUT.
WELL, THEN, WHO'S GONNA ACT AS BAIT?

UNDERSTANDING THAT INFORMATION IS POWER, HALO CITY ESTABLISHED THE ARCHIVE--
--A [redacted] COLLECTING DATA [redacted] INFOBANK, NEWSNET [redacted] PRINTVAULT.
WITHIN, [redacted] A WEIGHTLESS ENVIRONMENT [redacted] TO SUPPORT [redacted] UNWIELDLY BULK, [redacted] A MUTANT [redacted].
HIS HULKING BODY BELIES HIS TRUE GENIUS, [redacted] PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY AND COMPUTER-SHARP MIND.
IN RETURN [redacted] [redacted] RESCUE FROM [redacted] CORPORATE SURVITUDE, [redacted] [redacted] SERVICES TO HALO CITY.
CULLING DATA FROM A THOUSAND [redacted] SOURCES, HE IS A [redacted] OF SECRET KNOWLEDGE.
THAT MAKES HIM A VERY DANGER- [redacted] MAN.
[redacted] MEXICO, YOU SAID YOU [redacted] ABOUT MY RELATIONSHIP TO BRIMSTONE LOVE.
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME WHAT YOU MEANT BY THAT.
[redacted] MY DEAR, BUT NOT OVER [redacted] COMLINE. THAT WOULD [redacted] INDISCREET--
--AND I WOULD PREFER OUR DISCUSSION TO BE--
--PRIVATE.
ON SCREEN.
SEÑORITA, A [redacted] I MUST THANK YOU AGAIN [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] MY ESCAPE FROM THE QUETZALCOATL CORPORATION.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN...
ALL RIGHT, BOYS, I'M IN PLACE ON THE DARKHOLME BUILDING.
I'VE GOT A CLEAR VIEW OF THE STREETS BELOW.
NOTHING GOING ON FROM HERE.
I HEAR YOU, YAIMIE. THE STREETS ARE EMPTY FROM MY POINT OF VIEW.
THIS COULD BE A WASH.
OUR OL' LEADER LOOKS LIKE HE'S THE ONLY SOUL TAKIN' THIS MIDNIGHT STROLL TONIGHT.
XI'AN JUST ROUNDED THE CORNER.
NO SIGN OF ANYONE ELSE-- WAIT!
SOMEONE JUST STEPPED OUT OF THAT DOORWAY.
XI'AN CHI XAN...

DON'T WORRY, BROTHER. I'VE GOT YOUR BACK COVERED.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS.
BEEN TOO LONG SINCE AUNTIE MAIM DID SOME STOMPING WITH THE LAWLESS.
MOVE AND YOU'RE DEAD.
DOWNSHIFT, TEN EAGLES--
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
LET'S POUND SOME SKULL!
NO, MAIM, WE'VE MADE A MISTAKE.
WHO ARE YOU?
-GASP-MY NAME'S HORACE... -GASP-...FOGHE, I HAVE A WEAK HEART.
I ONLY... GASP...WANTED YOU TO HEAL ME.
GET OUT OF HERE, HORACE--
TONIGHT, I MAY NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO SAVE MYSELF.

we should've kicked his sorcerer behind just for practice.
hey, where's mongrel?
maybe he saw horace wasn't the fookiller, and stayed back.
VVRRRRRMMMM
that's his aeroglide.
why's he accelerating?
VVRRRRRMMMM
you were judged by the righteous elders of new hope--
--and, I, as the last fookiller, am here to see that their judgment stands!
the life you've led warrants no redemption--
--only death!
YAAAAGHH...
this sure is mighty embarrassin' didn't even hear that rat comin'.

OBLIVION AWAITS EACH OF YOU.
HANG ON, MONGREL! I'VE GOT YOU!
SET ME OUT OF THESE CHAINS, BROTHER!
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THEM BEFORE THE FOOL-KILLER GETS THAT BIKE AIRBORNE.
WITH THE TWO OF THEM WHIPPING AROUND, I DON'T HAVE A CLEAR HAMMER SHOT AT THE FOOLKILLER.
AND SO ANOTHER FOOL JOINS THE PARTY.
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME WHETHER I KILL YOU NOW OR LATER, XI'AN CHI XAN.
OR IF YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU'LL SIMPLY FALL TO YOUR DEATH, SAVING ME THE EFFORT.
HE'S TAKIN' US INTO THE AIR.
IF I COULD ONLY GET MY LEFT HAND ON THOSE CHAINS--
--I COULD DISSOLVE THEM IN AN INSTANT.
THINK YOU BETTER FORGET ABOUT ME, AND SAVE YOUR OWN HIDE.
THAT NUTCASE KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE AN AEROBIKE.
IF YOU'RE STILL HANGIN' ON WHEN HE SHIFTS INTO TURBO--
--WE'LL BOTH END UP CHAR-BROILED.

A FINE SUGGESTION, FOOL.
DON'T BE A HERO, XI'AN!
LET GO!
YEEAAARGH!
MONGREL--- I'M SORRY---

REST ASSURED, OUTLAWS, I WILL RETURN.
FINAL JUDGMENT IS INESCAPABLE.
MONGREL! WE WILL AVENGE YOU, BROTHER!
SAVE YOUR BREATH, MAIM. MONGREL CAN'T HEAR YOU.
SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW--WAIT FOR THE FOOLKILLER TO PICK ANOTHER ONE OF US OFF?
NO, NO MORE WAITING. WE'RE NOT GOING TO PLAY BY HIS RULES ANYMORE.
THE FOOLKILLER WON'T LEAVE THE CITY AS LONG AS WE'RE STILL HERE.
WE'RE GOING TO FIND HIM, AND WHEN WE DO, IT'S JUDGMENT DAY--
--LAWLESS STYLE.
NOW THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE XI'AN I USED TO KNOW.
XI'AN-- ARE YOU--
ALIVE! YES, AND ANGRY.
FOOLKILLER'S PARADISE